



The Trustees of Reservations

*Conserving the
Massachusetts Landscape
Since 1891*

SPECIAL PLACES

Volume 6, No. 1 ❧ Winter 1998

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
*For Members and Donors of
The Trustees of Reservations*



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An 18th century time capsule: The historic Paine House at Greenwood Farm, Ipswich

Rediscovering Colonial New England at Greenwood Farm

During the past year, The Trustees has been involved in one of the most exciting historic preservation projects the organization has ever undertaken. Working with expert preservationists, we have, together, rediscovered much of colonial New England's glorious past through our exploration of the historic Paine House at Greenwood Farm in Ipswich.

Architecture

Probably built during the first quarter of the 18th century, the Paine House lies at the heart of what is known today as Greenwood Farm, though originally founded in the mid 17th century as the Paine Farm. With its central chimney, exposed timber framing, and integral cantilevered lean-to with sloping saltbox roof, the Paine House is a superb example of late First Period (1620-1725) architecture and represents, through its design, construction, materials, and craftsmanship, the unique style of the period.

The Trustees is currently undertaking, with the assistance of preservationists Bill Finch and David Webb, a major stabilization program to ensure the long-term integrity of the house. So far, this has involved rebuilding sections of the foundation; installing drains; reconstructing rotted sections of the sill; replacing rotted corner posts and support beams; installing a new support frame for flooring; pointing the chimney base; and replastering sections of the interior walls.

Archaeology

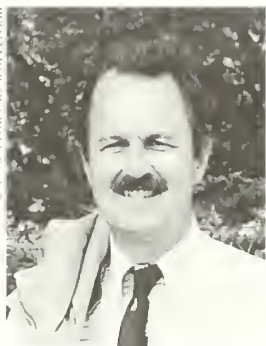
Given Ipswich's rich archaeological repute and speculation that the Paine House might turn up some interesting finds, The Trustees hired archaeologist Kathleen Wheeler to undertake an archaeological dig. Buried beneath a brick floor in the kitchen, she found hundreds of redware fragments including several nearly intact vessels (milk pans and tankards). These artifacts indicate that the Paine House once had a milk room or dairy, probably dating to the third quarter of the 18th century—a very exciting find! The existence of this dairy strongly suggests that those living in the Paine House at the time participated in the colonial cash economy of butter production! Current work involves piecing together broken dairy vessels, while future work may include a study of faunal material (principally mammal, fish, and fowl bones) found in the dig site which will help us to better understand what animals were consumed at the time.

Social History

Though of major architectural and archaeological importance, Greenwood Farm comprises more than just historic buildings, a farm, and landscape. It offers us a rare glimpse into the near and distant past—a chapter in the social history of New England, from colonial times to the present day. This history begins with Robert Paine Sr., who, having emigrated to

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Thoughts from the Executive Director...



Until not long ago, one of my four children, an otherwise bright and cheery soul, would complain that most of so-called "history" never actually happened—that none of the supposedly famous people and events were real, but, rather, had been invented for the sole purpose of making her and her classmates' lives miserable. This same daughter is now

away at college, happily majoring in history and international relations, busy building a background which will qualify her, I have no doubt, for Secretary of State or, at least, Ambassador to the United Nations.

Something happened to her on the way to college! A connection was made in her mind, making the past relevant to the present...and of real importance to her future. Could it be, I wonder, that our family walks—and there were many on Trustees' reservations—helped to make that connection. I certainly like to think so.

History does come alive on our reservations; you can see it, you can touch it. For example, the massive boulders which form the Rock House make it easy to imagine indigenous hunters stopping to make camp and finding shelter there from harsh winter winds. And, Greenwood Farm, the subject of this newsletter's cover story, sparks special interest when one learns that Robert Paine Sr. was a jury foreman in the Salem Witch Trials of 1692. That Hollywood chose the Crane Wildlife Refuge—otherwise known as Hog Island—as the location for making a film of Arthur Miller's play, *The Crucible*, made this special place doubly exciting for my children.

Among the most meaningful connections for me are those that span the generations, linking people and places. Take Joseph Choate, Ambassador to the Court of St. James, who built Naumkeag between 1885–86. He descended from the Choate family, which first owned Hog Island, and built the ancestral Choate House there 250 years ago. And, while

the Choates went west to Stockbridge, the Sedgwicks came east to Beverly, creating a link between the Colonel John Ashley House and Long Hill, our headquarters, with its fabulous gardens.

Among the destinations that inspire the most are the same houses and landscapes from which our best known 19th century writers drew inspiration. How can one not believe in our mission while sitting deep in William Cullen Bryant's woods in Cummington, reading the poetry he wrote there? Or, standing where Emerson and Hawthorne once gazed through an Old Manse window at the Concord River and the bridge where first was fired the *shot heard 'round the world*? There was a time when The Trustees did not make much of its remarkable historic sites. I'm not sure we really knew what treasures we had.

Taken together, our reservations tell the story of the interaction of people and landscape over the millennia on this piece of ground we call Massachusetts. And, what an interesting story it is. One of the charges of *The Trustees 2000 Strategic Plan* is to tell this story even better. During one planning session, I recall a debate over which should come first: conservation of our reservations or enhancement of the visitor experience. In the end, we agreed the two were equally important. A debate we did *not* have was whether The Trustees' mission shouldn't really focus more on land conservation than on historic preservation, as if the two were opposed and mutually exclusive. That issue has been resolved! Historic preservation is both central to our mission and pivotal in providing current and future generations with the strong sense of place and stewardship which comes from a connection to the special places we protect.

Frederic Winthrop
Executive Director

The Trustees of Reservations

*Conserving the
Massachusetts Landscape
Since 1891*

We invite your articles,
photographs, comments and
suggestions. Please send them to:

Special Places

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Founded in 1891, The Trustees of Reservations is a private nonprofit conservation organization dedicated to preserving, for public use and enjoyment, properties of exceptional scenic, historic, and ecological value throughout Massachusetts and to protecting special places across the state. Today, The Trustees owns, manages, and interprets 78 reservations totaling more than 20,420 acres, and protects an additional 10,750 acres through the use of conservation restrictions on 160 parcels of privately held land. The Trustees of Reservations is not an agency of state government. We rely for support entirely upon membership dues, contributions, grants, reservation receipts, special events, and endowments.

For information about becoming a member, please contact the Membership Office at 978/524-1858, or write to The Trustees at 572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530.

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Rediscovering Colonial New England...

continued from front cover



Bill Finch meets with The Trustees' Susan Edwards and Susan Hill Dolan to discuss recent work on the cellar and former dairy in the Paine House.

America around 1638, received soon thereafter a land grant on Jeffrey's Neck Road, thus establishing the Paine Farm and beginning a long tradition of raising cattle, haying salt marsh, and fishing. And, the history concludes three centuries later with the passing in 1993 of Miss Sally Dodge, whose family

had, since 1916, used the farm as an idyllic country retreat for social and leisure pursuits.

In keeping with this spirit, following the completion of the current stabilization program, Trustees staff and volunteers will embark on a comprehensive interpretation program at Greenwood Farm, which will bring together the architectural significance, archaeological interest, ecology, and social history of this very special place from the First Period to the early 20th century Colonial Revival period.

Greenwood Farm is located on Jeffrey's Neck Road in Ipswich and is open year round for walking, birdwatching, and picnicking. *For further information on the Paine House, contact Susan Edwards or Susan Hill Dolan at 978/356-4351.* ♥

6th Annual Restoration & Renovation trade show

Trustees members with a keen interest in house restoration or renovation might consider attending the 6th Annual *Restoration & Renovation* trade show at the World Trade Center in Boston, March 12-14, 1998. This year's show, entitled "Bridging Traditions," is dedicated to traditional design and craft. A complete program of events and registration materials can be obtained by calling 978/664-8066.

LAND CONSERVATION

End-of-Year Wrap-Up

Since publication of our fall newsletter, The Trustees has completed seven end-of-year land conservation projects protecting a total of 207 acres. Collectively, these Conservation Restrictions (CRs) are among the most intricate and important projects we have carried out in recent years.

Estabrook Woods Open Space Network Grows

In 1996, Jonathan and Winifred Sachs of Cambridge purchased a scenic property in Carlisle, known as the Evans Farm. Now the Sachs Property, it comprises wetland, meadow, and woodland and is located just north of Harvard University's property on Two Rod Road, an ancient north-south trail linking conservation land in Concord and Carlisle. With this purchase, the Sachses have saved a very special landscape from almost certain development. They have since restored the 18th century farmhouse and, in December, conveyed to The Trustees and the Carlisle Conservation Foundation (CCF)—at a fraction of its value—a CR on 44.4 acres. The CCF will allocate funds raised in the recent Estabrook Woods

Campaign for purchasing the CR as well as make a contribution to The Trustees' Conservation Restriction Monitoring Fund for ongoing surveillance. The Sachses are also selling 8.3 adjacent acres, including a nature trail, to the Town of Carlisle as part of the growing Estabrook Woods open space network.



The Sachs Property, Two Rod Road, Carlisle

Medford Jewel Protected by Conservation Team

A favorite of birders and walkers, the City-owned Brooks Estate in Medford lies adjacent to the Oak Grove Cemetery, Winchester Town Forest, and the Metropolitan District Commission's (MDC) Middlesex Fells Reservation. In December, the Medford City Council

The Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition, of which The Trustees is a leading member, recently came on-line with a brand new Internet website. Information about the Coalition, land conservation techniques, and member land trusts can be found at: <http://www.shore.net/~mltc>.

Thanks to MIT graduate student Ole Amundsen for his creative work this summer designing this site.

Land Conservation

Continued from page 3

voted and the Mayor approved a precedent-setting CR over the 49.8-acre landscape and a historic preservation restriction over the mansion and carriage house, thus resolving long-standing concerns about the fate of this unprotected jewel. These restrictions will be held jointly by The Trustees, the MDC, and the Massachusetts Historical Commission.



The Brooks Estate, Medford

The land will remain in City ownership, but, under agreement with the City, a new land trust is being formed to manage the property and restore the buildings. A debt of gratitude and credit go to the all-volunteer Brooks Estate Preservation Association, City Councilor Robert Penta, members of his City Council committee, and Mayor Michael J. McGlynn.

Key Charles River Valley Parcel Protected

Francis O. Hunnewell generously donated a conservation restriction on 21 acres of woodland, wetland, and meadow in Natick, the first of a highly valuable CR on a large tract of land along the western border of Wellesley. The extended Hunnewell families have now conserved, through gifts of CRs to The Trustees, over 140 acres of land in this area of the Charles River Valley, including most of the privately-owned shorefront of Lake Waban, protecting exquisite views from the Wellesley College campus.

Scenic Horse Farm Protected Along Palmer River in Rehoboth

Howard and Kathryn Kilguss generously donated a conservation restriction on a portion of their horse farm in Rehoboth. The 39.7-acre Kilguss Property contains extensive woodlands and wetland along the beautiful Palmer River and represents further progress towards protecting what is an emerging 380-acre greenway comprised of parcels of land protected by either The Trustees or the Town of Rehoboth.

Save the date!

1998 Massachusetts Land Trust Conference

March 21, 1998

Tower Hill Botanic Garden
Boylston, MA

A full day of workshops, seminars and discussion on topics of interest to land trust board members, staff, and interested volunteers. Subjects include land acquisition, conservation restrictions, fundraising, nonprofit management, and more.

For registration information, please call Virginia Slack at the Land Conservation Center: Tel 978/524-1863;

Fax 978/921-1948; Email landcons@ttor.org

Three CRs Enhance Menemsha Hills, Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge, and Rocky Narrows

Protecting land near our 78 reservations is a front-line activity of our Land Conservation Center. Recent efforts in this regard have borne critical fruit on Martha's Vineyard and in the Charles River Valley. The Nathaniel L. Harris, Jr. family gave to The Trustees a CR on the Harris Property, 3.7 acres of woodland along the western border of Menemsha Hills in Chilmark. In addition, the Richard N. Morash family sold to The Trustees at a bargain price a CR stiffening protection of the former Douglas Parcel, 3.5 acres in Edgartown bordering Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge. And, in Sherborn, David and Jane Howland gave to The Trustees a CR on Stannox Farm, 108 acres of scenic hayfields, pasture, upland woods, and red maple swamp which lie at the headwaters of Bogastow Brook, a major tributary of the Charles River near Rocky Narrows. For further information on The Trustees' Land Conservation program, call Wes Ward at 978/524-1866. ♡

Conservation Count!

Thanks to the hard work of our land conservation staff, the generosity of our many supporters, and the dedication of our numerous collaborators, The Trustees now protects 31,170 acres of land in Massachusetts. Congratulations to all!

Acreage Protected

Land Owned:	78 Reservations	20,420
Land Under CR:	160 Parcels	10,750
		31,170

CALENDAR

A Listing of Updated and Newly Scheduled Spring Events

CENTRAL REGION

SAT, MARCH 7 – 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Restoring Old Apple Trees

Holbrook Property, Rutland 978/840-4446

Join us for a hands-on pruning workshop on restoring old apple trees. After a morning pruning demonstration, participants will work restoring one or more trees in an old orchard. Dress warmly and bring work gloves, any tools you may have (hand pruners, loppers, pruning saws, pole pruners), and a lunch. No chainsaws please! Pre-register by February 28. Members \$20. Non-members \$25. *Storm Date: Saturday, March 14*

SAT, MARCH 21 – 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Spring into Swift River!

Swift River Reservation, Petersham 978/840-4446

Enjoy a day at the Nichewaug Tract of the Swift River Reservation for trail clearing maintenance tasks. Bring work gloves, any tools you may have (hand pruners, loppers, pruning saws, pole pruners), and a lunch. No chainsaws please! Meet at the Reservation entrance on Nichewaug Rd. Pre-register by March 14.

SAT, APRIL 4 – 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Spring Cleaning at The Old Manse

The Old Manse, Concord 978/369-3909

Help us spruce up the grounds of The Old Manse in preparation for Patriots Day! We will be raking the lawns, cleaning out the flower beds, putting up new signs, and a variety of other spring clean-up tasks. Bring work gloves, any tools you may have (hand pruners, rakes, garden trowels), and a lunch. Pre-register by March 28.

FRI, APRIL 17 through MON, APRIL 20 – 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Patriot's Day Celebration and Season Opening at The Old Manse

The Old Manse, Concord 978/369-3909

Special house tours will commemorate the Battle at the Old North Bridge. On Patriot's Day, Monday, April 20, additional activities will be held on the grounds. Items from the Museum Shop and refreshments will be available for purchase. During the season, The Old Manse is open for tours, Monday through Saturday 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Members free. Non-member adults \$5.50, children \$3.50. Senior/Student \$4.

SAT, MAY 2 – 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Create a Better Butterfly Meadow

Rock House Reservation, West Brookfield 978/840-4446

Help The Trustees and the Friends of the Rock House celebrate Earth Day by creating a butterfly meadow that will attract our fluttering friends at the Rock House Reservation. Bring work gloves, any tools you may have (hand pruners, loppers, pruning saws, pole pruners), and a lunch. Pre-register by April 25. Meet at the main entrance of the Reservation on Route 9.

SAT, MAY 30 – 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Memorial Day Meander on the Tully River

Tully Lake, Jacobs Hill Reservation, Royalston 978/840-4446

Bring your canoe or kayak and paddle with us on an interpretive canoe tour across Tully Lake and up the Tully River. 5

Meet at the boat launch at the Army Corps of Engineers' Tully Dam area for a short preview of the trip and a review of basic canoe safety. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy at the base of Spirit Falls. Life jackets are required for all participants. Pre-register by May 23. Member adults \$10, children \$5. Non-member adults \$15, children \$5.

ISLANDS REGION

Martha's Vineyard Spring Walks

The following walks will be led by Mary Merges, Islands Regional Interpretation and Education Coordinator. Bird walks are limited to 12 people. Member adults \$4, children (under 15) \$2. Non-member adults \$6, children (under 15) \$3. *Please call The Trustees' Islands Regional Office at 508/693-7662 for more details and to register.*

SUN, MARCH 8 – 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.

Long Point Waterfowl

Walk along coastal ponds at Long Point Wildlife Refuge looking for migrating ducks. This once popular hunting spot is abundant with waterfowl and other spring birds. Meet at Deep Bottom Road parking lot.

SUN, APRIL 19 – 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.

Wasque Shorebirds

Observe migrating shorebirds at Wasque Reservation. Walk to Katama Bay and Wasque Point to watch migrating plovers, sandpipers and other birds. Bring binoculars and field guide; extras will be provided. Meet at Bathing Beach parking lot. *Come early to help with the island-wide beach cleanup! 11 A.M. - 1 P.M.*

SUN, MAY 10 – 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.

Menemsha Hills Mother's Day Walk

Spend some time with Mom on a leisurely walk through Menemsha Hills Reservation. Enjoy the geology of the area and observe plant-wildlife interactions. Meet at Menemsha Hills parking lot off North Road.

NORTHEAST REGION

SUN, MARCH 1 – 1 P.M.

Lecture: European Influence on the Crane Estate

The Great House at Castle Hill, Ipswich 978/356-4351

Did you know that Castle Hill's library once belonged to the Earl of Essex's Cassiobury Park in England? Join our staff historian as we learn how European architecture and landscape design influenced the creation of the Crane Estate. Admission is at the gate only. Members free. Non-members \$5 per car.

SUN, APRIL 5 – 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Kite Flying at Crane Beach

Crane Beach, Ipswich 978/356-4351

Brighten the sky with your kite! All day, we're encouraging visitors to join the fun and fly a kite. Members \$2.50 per car. Supporting Members or higher are free. Non-members \$5 per car.

MON, APRIL 20

Long Hill Garden Tours & Teas Begin

Long Hill, Beverly 978/921-1944

Welcome spring and enjoy a family outing or call for a guided tour. Group guided tours are \$5 per person. Tea is available by prior arrangement at \$5 per person. Tour & Tea: \$9. Minimum 10 people Mon-Fri. Minimum 20 people Sat-Sun. The garden is open 8 A.M. to sunset. Please call to arrange tours.

SUN, APRIL 26 – 1 P.M. to 4 P.M.

Spring House Tours at Castle Hill

The Great House at Castle Hill, Ipswich 978/356-4351

Visit this magnificent example of a 1920s country manor. If you can't come April 26th, visit us this summer—open Wednesdays and Thursdays, May 27 (excluding Sept. 16) through October 8. Members free. Non-member adults \$7. Children and seniors \$5.

SUN, MAY 3 – 1 P.M.

Horticultural Hike at Castle Hill

Castle Hill, Ipswich 978/356-4351

Witness spring coming to life at Castle Hill. A staff naturalist will lead a natural history tour of the property. Admission is at the gate only. Members free. Non-members \$5 per car.

SUN, MAY 10 – 9:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.

10th Annual Long Hill Rare Plant Sale and Auction

Long Hill, Beverly 978/921-1944

The event of the season! Join us for our annual Mother's Day plant sale featuring unusual trees, shrubs, and perennials. A real treat for Mom! Free admission.

SUN, MAY 10

Stevens-Coolidge Place Opens for Season

Stevens-Coolidge Place, North Andover 978/682-3580

House open for guided tours Mother's Day through Columbus Day on Sundays 1 P.M. - 5 P.M. (and Wednesdays 2 P.M. - 4 P.M. during June, July, and August) or by appointment. Members free. Non-member adults \$4, children under 16 free. Gardens open daily, 8 A.M. to sunset. Free admission.

SAT, MAY 16 – 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Stevens-Coolidge Place Plant Sale

Stevens-Coolidge Place, North Andover 978/682-3580

Perennials, old roses, and unusual annuals will be available for sale at this annual event. Enjoy the garden's spring display at its peak. The house will be open with floral arrangements provided by the North Andover Garden Club. Free admission.

SUN, MAY 24 – 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

5th Annual Parker River Festival

Lower Newbury Green near Old Town Hill, Newbury

Join us as we celebrate the native birds, fish, plants, and ecology of the Parker River. Enjoy activities and performances created for all ages. Tri-sponsored by The Trustees, The Massachusetts Audubon Society, and Essex County Greenbelt Association. Free admission. *Raindate: Monday, May 25*

THURS, MAY 28 – 2 P.M. and 4 P.M.

Great House Tea at Castle Hill

The Great House at Castle Hill, Ipswich 978/356-4351

Enjoy the luxury of afternoon tea at The Great House. Your seating will include tea sandwiches, scones, and other tasty treats. A guided house tour is included. Advance reservations required. Member \$13.50. Non-members \$15.

SOUTHEAST REGION

SAT, APRIL 25 – 10 A.M.

Charles River Canoe / Kayak Trip

Rocky Narrows Reservation, Sherborn 508/359-7815

Arrive by canoe / kayak and visit Rocky Narrows Reservation for a guided hike and picnic lunch. Bring your canoe / kayak, warm clothes, and a picnic lunch. Life jackets are required for all participants. Meet at the Route 27 bridge across the Charles River in Medfield. Limited to 20 people. Please call Bob Costello to pre-register. Free admission. Members are encouraged to bring guests!

SUN, MAY 17 – 1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.

Whitney & Thayer Woods — Milliken Path

Whitney & Thayer Woods, Cohasset 781/821-2977

Join Naturalist Meg Moore as she leads this guided tour of a woodland garden path. The trail is flanked by native rhododendrons and orchids, and is enhanced by an interior garden which was created in the early 1920s by summer resident, Mabel Minott Milliken. Meet at the Cohasset parking area across from Sohier St. on Route 3A *rain or shine*. Free admission. Members are encouraged to bring guests!

MAY – 7 A.M.

World's End Early Morning Bird Walk

World's End, Hingham 781/821-2977

Avid birder Kevin Godfrey will lead this bird walk on a weekend morning in May. Watch for notice of exact date on the World's End bulletin board and in the *Patriot Ledger*, *Mariner*, *Hull Times*, and the *Globe South Weekly* newspapers.

WESTERN REGION

FRI, MARCH 13 through SUN, MARCH 15

Snowshoe Adventure: Late Winter Exploration

Contact Appalachian Mountain Club at 413/443-0011

Snowshoers of all levels are welcome to learn about the awakening of life as spring approaches. A day will be spent snowshoeing, the other exploring the fields, woods, and wetlands around Field Farm. Bring your own snowshoes or borrow from AMC. Co-sponsored by the AMC and The Trustees. Fee \$175 (Includes instruction, lodging Fri-Sat, and meals Sat breakfast through Sun lunch.)

SUN, APRIL 19 – 12 NOON to 3 P.M.

Spring Migration on Monument Mountain

Monument Mountain, Great Barrington 413/229-8600

Hike to the top of Monument Mountain while listening and looking for early spring song birds and nesting ravens. We will also look for and identify any migrating spring hawks. Member adults \$4, children 8-16 \$1. Non-member adults \$6, children 8-16 \$2.

SUN, MAY 10 – 2 P.M. to 4 P.M.

Notchview's Hume Brook Trail

Notchview Reservation, Windsor 413/684-0148

Explore this recently reconstructed trail system at Notchview Reservation. The trail will lead us along Hume Brook through conifer and mixed deciduous forest. Member adults \$4, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$6, children 6-12 \$2.

SUN, MAY 17 – 2 P.M. to 4 P.M.

Exploring Questing

Questing, New Marlborough 413/229-8600

Yes! We have a new property to explore in Western Massachusetts, and it's called Questing. Naturalist Don Reid will lead you around this new Reservation and explore its natural bounties, from birds and mammals to amphibians and wildflowers. *Meet at Bartholomew's Cobble and carpool over to Questing.* Member adults \$4, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$6, children 6-12 \$2.

SAT, MAY 24 – 9 A.M. to 12 NOON.

Birds and Wildflowers of Tyringham Cobble

Tyringham Cobble, Tyringham 413/229-8600

Explore this gem in the Berkshires. We will concentrate on migrating and nesting birds, with an ever vigilant eye out for spring wildflowers. Member adults \$4, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$6, children 6-12 \$2.

Spring Events at Bartholomew's Cobble

Bartholomew's Cobble, Ashley Falls 413/229-8600

The following events take place at Bartholomew's Cobble. Please call for more information and program registration.

SAT, APRIL 11 – 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Volunteer Work Day at Bartholomew's Cobble

Bring your gloves and hand tools, and help prepare the Cobble for the busy season ahead. Along with all the normal friendly hubbub associated with work day this year, we will need help removing a boardwalk and moving a section of trail away from a wetland. Sounds like fun! Refreshments will be provided!

SAT, APRIL 18 – 7:30 P.M.

Sounds of an Early Spring Evening

Join in the spring quest for early vocalizing critters! Listen for the choruses of wood frogs, and the courtship flight sounds of the reclusive woodcock among other things. Find out what they are really saying! Dress warmly! Member adults \$4, children 8-16 \$1. Non-member adults \$6, children 8-16 \$2.

SUNDAY MORNINGS BEGINNING MAY 10 – 7:30 A.M.

The Birds of Bartholomew's Cobble

Venture forth into the different habitats of southern Berkshire county and learn bird identification, their songs, and natural histories. Members free. Non-member adults \$3, children 8-12 \$1.

SAT, MAY 9 – 10 A.M.

Wildflowers and Their Stories

Children of all ages are invited to join Naturalist Daphne Drur for a tour of the wildflowers of spring at the Cobble. Member adults \$4, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$6, children 6-12 \$2.

FRI, MAY 15 – 7:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.

SAT, MAY 16 – 8 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Spring Wildflowers — Photography Workshop

Well known Interpretive Naturalist and Nature Photographer John Green will begin this workshop with an evening program on the mechanics of 35mm photography, followed the next day with a 6-hour field program. John is best known for his ability to use existing light while photographing, and to maintain harmony with nature. Don't miss this opportunity! Bring a 35mm camera, slide film, and a tripod if you have one. *Please pre-register, space is limited.* Member adults \$40. Non-member adults \$60.

SAT, MAY 16 – 9 A.M. to 11 A.M.

Spring Discovery Day at Bartholomew's Cobble

Explore the Cobble's wonders of spring. From vernal pools to birds to wildflowers, and everything in-between. Expect the unexpected! This is a great program for families. Member adults \$4, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$6, children 6-12 \$2.

SAT, MAY 23 – 7 P.M.

SUN, MAY 24 – 8 A.M. to 11 A.M.

Bird Vocalization and Field Identification Workshop

Join Naturalist David St. James in this introduction to bird vocalizations. These often-confusing bird sounds can be a test of any naturalists' skills from beginner to expert. The workshop begins with a Saturday evening lecture on bird songs and ecology, followed the next day with the field trip. Member adults \$15, children 10-16 \$8. Non-member adults \$25, children 10-16 \$12.

SAT, MAY 23 – 9 A.M. to 11 A.M.

Splashes of Color — Nature at Work

Spring is the time for the Cobble's famous wildflower and bird show! Join us for this introduction to spring ephemeral wildflowers and resident and migratory birds. Member adults \$4, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$6, children 6-12 \$2.

SUN, MAY 24 – 6 P.M.

SUN, MAY 31 – 6 P.M.

Discovering a Vernal Pool

Those little pools of water you see in the spring that usually dry up by summer are fascinating *little puddles* teeming with life. Discover the life in these pools and their importance to a great variety of interesting critters. A great program for families. Bring insect repellent. Member adults \$4, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$6, children 6-12 \$2.

SAT, MAY 30 – 7:30 P.M.

Sounds of a Mid-Spring Evening

Have you ever wondered what all that ruckus is on a spring evening? Explore Bartholomew's Cobble when everything seems to want to be heard. Learn who's making these sounds and what they are saying. Bring insect repellent. Member adults \$4, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$6, children 6-12 \$2.

Check Out These Upcoming Natural Adventures!

APRIL 25 through MAY 3

The Natural and Cultural History of New Mexico

Join Western Regional Ecologist Don Reid and Massachusetts Audubon Society's René Laubach on this 9-day adventure to the *Land of Enchantment*.

SEPT 11 through SEPT 14

The Natural History of Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard

Join Mary Merges, Islands Regional Interpretation and Education Coordinator, and Don Reid as they explore these amazing Massachusetts habitats and marine environments.

OCT 16 through OCT 20

Following the Birds South: Hawk Mountain, Pennsylvania and Cape May, New Jersey

Join Don Reid and René Laubach on this raptor extravaganza!

Please contact Don Reid at 413/229-8600 for more information on all trips and itineraries.

NOTEWORTHY

News & Shorts of All Sorts

☛ **The Trustees Joins North Quabbin Regional Landscape Partnership.** The Trustees has joined 27 other public and private land conservation groups from Central Massachusetts to form the *North Quabbin Regional Landscape Partnership*, a new coalition whose mission is to identify, protect, and enhance strategic ecological, cultural, and historic open space in the rural landscape of the North Quabbin region. In the spirit of *The Trustees 2000 Strategic Plan*, we continue to participate in multi-party, collaborative partnerships which have proven to be indispensable, especially when handling complex land conservation projects.

Despite uncooperative weather, Corporate Trustees and donors made the most of their visit (in foul weather gear!) to Mount Greylock during the 1997 Annual Fall Field Trip to north Berkshire County.



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☛ **The Trustees welcomes Vin Antil.** In January, Vin Antil joined The Trustees to run our Geographic Information System (GIS). Vin comes to us from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where he worked as GIS Project Manager and completed his Masters Degree in Regional Planning. Vin previously worked for the State Division of Fisheries and Wildlife as GIS analyst. He brings to The Trustees a broad background in GIS, top-notch cartographic skills, and, most important, a passionate love for the Massachusetts landscape.



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Technical work proceeds on the preservation of the mural in the Bride's Room at Long Hill in Beverly.

☛ **New England Power Service Company Lends a Hand at the Rock House.** To upgrade one of its power lines in West Brookfield earlier this past summer, the New England Power Service Company installed several new 90 foot steel towers. While they considered using a helicopter to fly in sections of the tower, their easiest (and least expensive!) option was to access the site via a woods road through The Rock House Reservation. In return for granting one-time use of this road, Central Regional Director Dick O'Brien asked the utility company to perform some important "facelift" work on the reservation. By summer's end, Project Chief "Red" Duchamp and his crew had made improvements to this wood road, including rerouting of a small section, clearance of brush, and drainage as well as surface improvements at several critical locations. In addition, Red's

crew constructed a stone stairway up a worn section of trail, installed an overflow pipe in the dam at Carter Pond, and cleared stone and brush from a field to create a future butterfly meadow (see Central Region calendar, page 5).

☛ **Rush Taggart Fund and DEM Support Monument Mountain.** The Trustees recently received a generous grant of \$40,000 from the Rush Taggart Fund, \$3,000 of which was designated to help match a \$5,200 grant from the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) for trail improvements and interpretation at Monument Mountain in Great Barrington, a reservation acquired by The Trustees in 1899. The remainder of the Taggart grant will be used to create an endowment for Ashintully in Tyringham (see article on page 9 for details).

☛ **Eagle Scout Project Links Chase Woodlands with the Peters Reservation.** Martin McLaughlin, a boy scout from Dover, recently contacted Charles River Valley Superintendent Jeff Montgomery about performing a community service project for The Trustees which would complete his requirements for the rank of Eagle Scout. Jeff and Martin planned, and later completed, with the help of Martin's fellow scouts, a project which involved creating and posting 24 directional markers along trails in Chase Woodlands and the Peters Reservation, as well as along a very small corridor of Trustees-owned land connecting the two. Thanks to this successful Eagle Scout project, visitors can now access a contiguous network of trails which links the two reservations. Well done, Martin!



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The Great House cupola at Castle Hill in Ipswich received a fresh coat of paint this summer as part of a major 4-year maintenance program at this historic site.

☛ **The Trustees Receives \$100,000 Stratford Foundation Grant.** The Trustees recently received a very generous grant from Stratford Foundation totaling \$100,000. These funds will support four important initiatives: (1) continue implementation of the landscape plan for The Old Manse in Concord, (2) build a canoe landing on the Concord River at The Old Manse, (3) construct composting toilets at selected reservations with no sewer or septic systems, and (4) continue production of trail maps for reservations with walking trails.

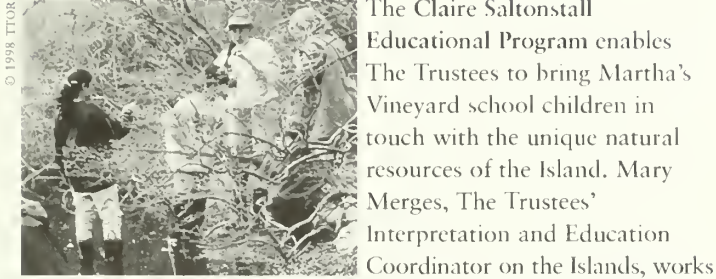
A sugar maple is planted at Naumkeag in Stockbridge to replace one lost in a storm. The tree was given by Debbie England Davis in memory of her mother, Jean England.



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EDUCATION

Studying the Natural History of Martha's Vineyard



The Claire Saltonstall Educational Program enables The Trustees to bring Martha's Vineyard school children in touch with the unique natural resources of the Island. Mary Merges, The Trustees' Interpretation and Education Coordinator on the Islands, works

with school teachers to create opportunities for their students to visit our reservations and study their intricate, fragile ecosystems. During the 1996/97 school year, Mary worked with approximately 30 teachers and 750 students from seven local schools.

This year, school children will again help The Trustees to protect vernal pools—temporary pools filled with snow melt, groundwater, or rainwater for at least two months of the year. Already, five classes ranging from Grades 2-5 have signed up. During monthly field visits this spring, students will research and map the area around vernal pools, determine their physical and biological properties, and identify amphibian and invertebrate species living in them. This information will provide essential research required for certification of vernal pools through the

Massachusetts Natural Heritage Program. Classroom extensions of the project will include creating stories and possibly a video or brochure about the creatures which live or breed in vernal pools.

Again this coming fall, students in Grades 4-6 will study three geological land forms on the Island. They will visit Menemsha Hills to study glacial moraines and Long Point Wildlife Refuge to study glacial outwash plains and post-glacial deposits. Younger students will construct 3-D topographic models of different geological formations, while older students will measure changes in the composition and shift of barrier beaches.

School teachers interested in participating in these or future CSEP projects on Martha's Vineyard should contact Mary Merges at 508/693-7662.

The Claire Saltonstall Educational Program (CSEP) is supported in part by an endowment created in 1984 by William and Jane Saltonstall in memory of their daughter, Claire. The endowment was expanded by gifts made during the Centennial Campaign. Last year, the program received annual support from individuals and a generous grant from the Sweet Water Trust. The CSEP's goal is for Trustees' staff to work closely with school children, instilling in them a conservation ethic for the Island's natural resources. To this end, the program familiarizes students with our reservations on Martha's Vineyard and involves them in original, hands-on research activities which inform our land management practices.

GARDENS

Preserving Ashintully Forever

Tyringham, in southern Berkshire county, is the site of a remarkable garden created by the late John McLennan. It bears the name which once referred to the entire 1,000-acre estate assembled in the early 20th century by McLennan's mother and her first husband, Egyptologist and two-time state representative Robb de Peyster Tytus. Called Ashintully (Gaelic meaning 'on the brow of the hill'), the estate once centered around a mansion known as the Marble Palace, destroyed by fire in 1952.

Born at Ashintully, John McLennan acquired the estate in 1937 and, in 1966, married Katharine White Bishop. They used the farmhouse at the foot of Ashintully's hill as a summer house and began to convert the untidy farmyard into a splendid garden.

The garden blends several natural features—a rushing stream traversed by two bridges; sloping, smoothly-mown hillsides; native deciduous trees; a steep knoll topped with a pedestal and urn; and rising, flanking parkland—into an ordered arrangement with both formal and informal beauty.

John McLennan's inspiration for Ashintully was partially the result of childhood visits during the early 1920s to Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, D.C., where garden designer Beatrix Farrand was creating a garden for McLennan's godmother, Mildred Bliss. In the same way that Farrand had fashioned the rose garden at Dumbarton Oaks out of paper-maché prior to construction, McLennan used homemade cardboard cut-outs of assorted garden ornaments, which he would set in various positions in the garden to determine the ideal location for each.

At the time of John McLennan's death in 1996, Ashintully had reached maturity. The following year, Ashintully received the H. Hollis Hunnewell Medal, established in 1870 by *The Massachusetts Horticultural Society* to recognize gardens of country residences embellished with rare and desirable ornamental trees and shrubs. *The Garden Conservancy*, a national organization working to save outstanding American gardens, has recognized Ashintully as a garden worthy of conservation and profiles it in its most recent newsletter.



In 1996, continuing a long history of generous contributions to The Trustees by the McLennan family, Ashintully was given to The Trustees, subject to the life estate of Katharine McLennan. Later that year, we launched a drive to raise a \$400,000 endowment to preserve Ashintully in perpetuity; so far, \$236,000 has been raised. We invite you to make a tax-deductible contribution towards the creation of the Ashintully Endowment by sending a check (payable to *The Trustees of Reservations*) to: The Ashintully Endowment, The Trustees of Reservations, 572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530.

Today, Ashintully remains a private residence, but the gardens are open by appointment for special group garden tours. For further information, contact Steve McMahon, Western Regional Director at 413/398-3239.

INTERPRETATION

The Nutshell at Chesterfield Gorge

The Trustees' Chesterfield Gorge, known to geologists and connoisseurs of scenery, once had a special attraction, The Nutshell, within, as its owner Chandler C. Bicknell once claimed, "a pistol shot of the Gorge." Bicknell's Nutshell was a 20 foot by 30 foot pitch-roofed building which, from 1907 until his death in 1945, he both lived in and operated as a tourist shop, displaying wares he made by hand on his gas-run lathe. These items included inkwells made from turtle shells, wooden picture frames and napkin rings (single and double), and his special invention, the brush hook, a device for cutting brush consisting of a small blade attached to a curved wooden handle.

More remarkable than these objects were his poems, which he also sold from The Nutshell. They were noteworthy, not for their literary value, but as the work of an autodidact about whom we can learn much from his (unpublished) autobiography.



On the east side of the gorge can still be seen the ruined 1769 stone abutment of the bridge which was part of the Boston-Albany postroad. Nutshell in top right corner. Photo taken in 1937.

In this document, Bicknell confesses—or perhaps boasts!—that he found school unprofitable, but, after reading a poem by Byron, was turned on to literature. By 1940, he owned a 36-foot bookshelf filled with standard translations of Greek and Latin classics, encyclopedias, and works by English and American poets, of whom his favorite to memorialize was the local William

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The Nutshell around 1907, when it first opened. Chandler Bicknell is standing next to his horse.

Cullen Bryant. Many of these books were gifts from his friends, and, after his death, they were held in the Dunham Library in West Chesterfield; the collection was later acquired by the Chesterfield Historical Society.

Some of Bicknell's poems, celebrating features of Chesterfield Gorge, should perhaps still be on sale to visitors, for Bicknell—always a good salesman—was not unaware of his situation and his clientele.

From "The Old Man of the Valley" (relating to a human face that can be seen on the east side of Chesterfield Gorge):

Old man of the river valley
Who hath watched so long and well
O'er this rushing, roaring river,
Thou of past events couldst tell.

Thou mightest tell of unnamed comets,
That once rose and flamed so high;
Or of blood red northern streamers,
That lit up a midnight sky.

Thou wast here when bears and panthers
Wandered in this lonely vale;
Here thou wast 'ere Indian war-whoops
Caused our grandsires to turn pale.

Chesterfield Gorge is located on River Road in Chesterfield, near the intersection of Route 143 and Ireland Street.

The material for this article was kindly contributed by Ruth Z. Temple, Chairman of the Chesterfield Historical Commission. ♡

GIFTS-IN-KIND

We are continually delighted by the extraordinary generosity of so many individuals, groups of people, and companies which support our mission by donating their goods and services to The Trustees. Gifts-in-kind enable us to tackle projects which would otherwise be very costly and/or difficult, if not impossible, to complete. Here is a brief sampling of three recent—and truly inspiring—gifts-in-kind made to The Trustees.

Caring for Trees at the Colonel John Ashley House

Surrounding and, in one case, literally overhanging the 1735 Colonel John Ashley House in Ashley Falls are several majestic, old trees, primarily scarlet oaks and sugar maples, which bring distinction to the surrounding landscape. Without these trees, some of the charm of this, the oldest dwelling in Berkshire County, and its beautiful setting would most certainly be lost. As with all old trees, keeping them healthy is a key to longevity.

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Old oaks and maples surround the Colonel John Ashley House in Ashley Falls.

Ron Yapple, a Massachusetts certified arborist, and his crew at Race Mountain Tree Services in Sheffield have volunteered their time for a three-year period to undertake an extensive tree maintenance program for The Trustees at the Ashley House. Their expert arboricultural work will involve thinning out tree crowns and removing dead and diseased limbs. They will also fertilize trees to rejuvenate and maintain their vigor and cable those with vulnerable, arching branches.

With the help of Ron and his crew, we all hope that these venerable trees, while already many years our senior, will far outlive each and every one of us!

Gifts-In-Kind *continued*

Reconstructing the Shay Shed at The Old Manse

The former shay shed at The Old Manse in Concord, constructed between 1850 and 1881, was named for the open, two-wheeled, horse-drawn carriage (a shay, from the French *chaise*) which it once sheltered. It has long been a goal of The Trustees to reconstruct the shay shed on its original site. Thanks to the generous support of many donors and to the *pro bono* work of architect Stanly Black, this goal will soon be realized.

Stanly's enthusiasm for the project was a natural. As a life-long resident of the Concord area, an architect with the Boston firm *Associated Architects*, and former Chairman of Concord's Historic Districts Commission, Stanly was uniquely qualified to lend a helping hand. Using historical documents, including a c.1909 photograph of The Old Manse, he conceived the perfect design for the new shay shed—one which both captures its original historic character and provides essential, modern work and storage space. "The assignment was extremely tricky," concedes Ned Perry of The Old Manse Committee, "However, Stanly really came up trumps. His drawings achieve both form, using traditional post & beam construction, with multiple function, in what will be a very compact structure."

A ground-breaking ceremony for the shay shed will take place on March 3rd. *For further information, call Laurie Butters at 978/369-3909.*

Cleaning the Ocean Floor Around Misery Islands

Believe it or not, keeping Misery Islands in Salem Bay clear of litter is both a terrestrial and an aquatic affair. While Superintendent

Greg Chanis, along with his staff and volunteer groups of students, work hard each year to clear litter above Misery's high tide line, he leaves the job of clearing litter below the high tide line in the capable hands of scuba divers from Boston's New England Aquarium Dive Club.

New England Aquarium Dive Club member surfaces from the waters around Misery Islands.

For the past two years, members of the Dive Club have managed the aquatic leg of The Misery Islands Coastal Clean-up. In September, Dive Club members take the opportunity of cleaning the ocean floor around Misery Islands to practice and refine their scuba diving skills. At the same time, they help The Trustees to keep the waters around Misery Islands clean.

So, what have they found so far, you might ask? Among heaps of jettisoned beer cans and bottles, a bath tub has been found along with the proverbial kitchen sink! 🐠

THE SEMPER VIRENS SOCIETY



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Making a Gift by Bequest

Recently, Judy Amelotte of Nutting Lake drew up her will and made a bequest to The Trustees. A member since 1981, she serves on the Conservation Commission in Billerica and is a staunch supporter of land preservation. "A gift to The Trustees makes a difference to Massachusetts and the local community. It's a wonderful organization," she says. "I also believe in the broader aspects of

The Trustees' mission, such as the preservation of historic houses and beautiful gardens."

Like Judy, you may find that a bequest is the simplest and easiest way to make a significant gift to The Trustees after your lifetime. It is also the most flexible. With a gift through your will, you can make changes at any time to remain consistent with your financial objectives. Furthermore, you retain full use of your gift property during your lifetime.

There are many forms of bequest. You can leave a specific dollar amount, a particular property, such as real estate or a tangible asset of value, or a percentage of your estate to The Trustees. With a bequest, your gift is 100% deductible for federal estate tax purposes.

For further information on how to name The Trustees in your will or on a range of other planned giving opportunities, including the pooled income fund, charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust, please call Eloise Hodges, Director of Planned Giving, at 978/524-1876.

Please let us know

- ☐ I would like information on how to include The Trustees in my will.
- ☐ I would like more information on how to receive income for life while making a planned gift to benefit The Trustees.
- ☐ I have remembered The Trustees in my estate plan. In recognition of my planned gift, please make me a member of *The Semper Virens Society*.

Mr. Mrs.
Ms. Miss

First

Middle Initial

Last

Address

City / Town

State

Zip Code

()

Telephone

Please fill out and return this form to:

Eloise Hodges, Director of Planned Giving • The Trustees of Reservations
572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530 or call 978/524-1876





Turkey Hill, Cohasset and Hingham

Going Places... SPECIAL PLACES!

Turkey Hill Cohasset & Hingham

Trustees' member Joanne Norton, a licensed bird-bander, avid birder, and member of the Hingham Conservation Commission, recently wrote an article for *The Hingham Times* about her birding excursions on Turkey Hill this past summer. She wrote, "Turkey Hill is a terrific place to bird. First of all, there really are Wild Turkeys there from time to time, as well as Ring-necked Pheasants. The bird which seemed to be everyone's favorite this summer was the nesting Indigo Bunting, which regularly sang from the top of a tree near the Turkey Hill Lane entrance.

Bobolinks are less and less common due to the disappearance of open fields, but were on Turkey Hill all summer. I never located a nest, but I did see adult birds carrying food, and, later, some young birds. Killdeer, which also like to nest in fields, have also been around all summer. Eastern Meadowlarks were seen early in the spring, but not after that. Warblers seen were the Chestnut-sided Warbler, the Blue-winged Warbler, and the Prairie Warbler, as well as the more common Yellow Warbler and Common Yellowthroat. I have seen Rose-breasted Grosbeaks regularly, a Scarlet Tanager, and both the Black-billed and the Yellow-billed Cuckoos. There have been Chipping Sparrows, Savannah Sparrows, Song Sparrows, and both White-throated and White-crowned Sparrows. The top of Turkey Hill has always been a good place to see raptors, and I have seen American Kestrels, Red-tailed Hawks, Sharp-shinned Hawks, Cooper's Hawks, and Turkey Vultures."

Turkey Hill is part of The Trustees' 813-acre Whitney and Thayer Woods Reservation straddling Cohasset and Hingham. Turkey Hill can be reached via Turkey Hill Lane, located off Leavitt Street in Hingham. ♡

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Please tell us about your favorite day trip to one of our 78 reservations! We'll highlight it here in Special Places. Mail to: Editors, Special Places, P. O. Box 563, 290 Argilla Road, Ipswich, MA 01938-2647 or E-Mail us at TToFR@aol.com

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SPECIAL PLACES

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